

REMARKS

In response to the Final Office Action dated July 12, 2007, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration based on the attached amendment and the following remarks. Applicant respectfully submits that the claims as presented here are in condition for allowance.

Claims 1-10 are pending in the present application. The Examiner has indicated that claims 9 and 10 are in condition for allowance, and that claims 4-8 are objected to, but would be allowable but for their dependence on a rejected base claim. Applicants cordially thank the Examiner for indication of the allowable subject matter. Claims 1, 5 and 6 have been amended and claim 4 has been canceled. Claim 1 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter indicated with respect to claim 4, while claims 5 and 6 have been amended to depend from amended claim 1, rather than from canceled claim 4. No new matter has been added by the amendment. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of claims 1-3 and 5-10 based on the amendment and the following remarks.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by Tsuchiya et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,166,491, hereinafter "Tsuchiya"). The Examiner states that Tsuchiya discloses all of the elements of the abovementioned claims, primarily in Col. 5, lines 1-5 and lines 17-65, Col. 5, line 43 through Col. 6, line 51, Col. 7, line 9 through Col. 8, line 34 and FIGS. 1, 3-5 and 14-15. Applicant respectfully traverses for at least the reasons set for below.

First, it is respectfully noted that it appears that there is improper reference to the Canova reference cited as a 102(b) reference in the previous non-final Office action regarding claims 2-5 on pages 2 and 3 of the detailed Action. Applicants presume and have treated reference to the Canova reference as an inadvertent error.

Second, it is respectfully noted that claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of canceled claim 4. The Examiner concedes to the subject matter of claim 4 as defining over Tsuchiya, as discussed on page 3 of the Detailed Action.

In particular, Tsuchiya does not teach or suggest a buffer generating a second signal based on the first signal from the temperature sensor and providing the second signal for the

inverter controller, as in amended independent claim 1. Thus claim 1, including claims depending therefrom, i.e., claims 2-8, define over Tsuchiya. Therefore it is respectfully submitted that amended independent claim 1, including claims depending therefrom, i.e., claims 2, 3 and 5-8, define over Tsuchiya.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection to claims 1-3 under § 102(b) be withdrawn and that a notice of allowance be issued with respect to claims 1-3 and 5-10.

In particular, Canova does not teach or suggest an inverter controller which generates a control signal for controlling the inverter depending on the first signal of the temperature sensor, wherein the voltage applied to the light source is increased based on the control signal, as in amended independent claim 1. Thus claim 1, including claims depending therefrom, i.e., claims 2-8, define over Canova.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection to claims 1-6 under § 102(b) be withdrawn and allowed the same to issue.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks distinguishing the prior art of record, Applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance. Early notification to this effect is requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's Attorneys at the below-listed telephone number regarding this Amendment or otherwise regarding the present application in order to address any questions or remaining issues concerning the same.

If there are any charges due in connection with this response, please charge them to Deposit Account 06-1130.

Respectfully submitted,

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